GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2466
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
INDIAN OCEAN RIM COUNTRIES
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the recent decision of Indian Ocean Rim Countries regarding penalties for illegal fishing;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate amendment relating to the convention on the law of sea and exclusive economic zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) The meeting of the Working Group on Fisheries of Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC) was held in Muscat, Oman, on September 15-1,2001.The report of the meeting has not yet been circulated to the IOR-ARC member States by the IOR-ARC Secretariat. Even after the report is circulated, it is to be approved by the Council of ministers of the IOR-ARC, before its recommendations can be taken as constituting a decision on the part of the member States. The next meeting of the Council of Ministers is likely to be held in Colombo in the first quarter of 2003.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.